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### Additions to Our Native Flora.

*Geum album*, Gmelin, var. FLAVUM, n. var.—More slender; flowers smaller, petals narrower and oblong, about half the length of the calyx-lobes, yellow.—In Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, often growing with the typical form, but scarcer.

*Gaylussacia resinosa* (Ait.), T. and G., var. LEUCOCARPA, n. var.—Berries softer, white or cream-color. Specimens in alcohol semi-translucent.—Warrior's Ridge, Huntingdon Co., Pa., 1858. East Knob, Pike Co., where, in 1886, twenty bushels of the fruit were gathered and sold for almost three times the price of the ordinary kind. Also reported as found in northern New Jersey.

*Bæhmeria cylindrica*, Willd., var. SCABRA, n. var.—Erect, strict, 2 feet high; leaves thick and rigid, very rough on the upper surface, tomentose beneath, on short petioles or almost sessile usually reflexed and pressed against the stem; spikes densely flowered, much longer than the petioles.

In bogs, Crawford and Lancaster counties, Penn., and at Budd's Lake, Morris Co., N. J. THOS. C. PORTER.

### Botanical Notes.

*Bulblets of Lycopodium lucidulum.* In addition to my note last month, on the "bulblets" of *Lycopodium lucidulum*, Michx., I may remark that they seem to be by no means so rare as might have been expected from their having so generally escaped the notice of botanists. The persistent stipes were readily detected on specimens in the Columbia College herbarium. An esteemed correspondent in West Medford, Mass., writes that she found the bulblets without the slightest trouble on plants of this species under cultivation, and also on New Hampshire specimens collected last season. On a thrifty plant gathered near West Medford December 8th, some of the "bulblets" still remained. This specimen differed in one very interesting and important respect from those collected in Western New York. Sporangia as well as "bulblets" were plentifully produced on the latter, and the empty valves of several successive years were conspicuously persistent. In the West Medford plant not a single sporangium of this or any previous season was discoverable. In other words, the auxiliary reproductive process seemed in this particular in-

stance to have altogether supplanted the normal method characteristic of the genus. In general structure the West Medford "bulblets" are substantially the same as those from Chautauqua. The stipes are shorter, however, barely a line in length: the upper bract of the antero-posterior pair is smaller, triangular lanceolate and taper-pointed, (instead of "oblong and obtuse"): the two main scales of the "bulblet" tend to diverge towards the extremity, thus producing a V-shaped opening between them (instead of a mere tiny "notch"). The accompanying diagrams are based on the specimens from Western New York. To represent the West Medford "bulblet" exactly, the uppermost bract in *a* should be narrower, and the interval between the two lower scales in *c* should be greater.



Diagrams of *Lycopodium lucidulum*,  $\times 6$ . Bracts at the summit of the stipe (*a*), and "bulblet" near the base (*b*) and towards the apex (*c*).

*Dianthus Armeria*, L., flowers ordinarily in July and August. Some eight or ten blossoms which I collected last October, on the Harlem bank of New York Island, were, therefore, greatly belated. The first one I found was of a darker purple than usual, and the white dots in the centre of the flower were wholly wanting. This peculiarity was so marked as to attract my attention at the first glance, and I made a diligent search for other specimens with the special object of seeing whether or not it would be repeated. Four or five different plants, averaging two flowers each, were found at different points, and in every instance the white dots had disappeared and the petals were of a decidedly intensified purple. This interesting chromatic variation appears to be due to the lower temperature of October as compared with that of August, inasmuch as the numerous flowers collected at the same station during midsummer were all strictly normal in coloration.

E. E. STERNS.

*Willow-galls.* E. E. S., in the last BULLETIN, suggests that gall-bearing by willows may possibly represent "a result of insect action become hereditary," and this most unreasonable conjecture is put forth on the slight negative evidence that "the writer had

repeatedly opened these cones without being able to find any larvæ or other indication of insect agency." Clearly E. E. S. is a botanist and not an entomologist! Mr. Walsh, in the Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Philadelphia, 1864, states that in the cabbage-like gall which infests *Salix longifolia* there dwell the *Cecidomyia* which is the maker of the gall, and altogether about two dozen other species of insects, which he enumerates, and which are more or less dependent upon the gall-maker for their existence! In the cones which appear to have more particularly attracted the attention of E. E. S., the larvæ of the gall-maker, a species of *Cecidomyia*, inhabits the very heart or center of the cone. Mr. Walsh says that "out of twenty galls opened November 15, all contained the cocoon. The first imago appeared April 5 and the last May 10." In addition to the true gall-maker the larvæ of another gall-gnat "live in great numbers under the scales," and, furthermore, the eggs of a meadow-grasshopper are often found under the scales—as many as fifty to one hundred in a single cone.

At least twenty distinct galls are known to occur on the willows of the States east of the Mississippi. These have been elaborately described, and the habits of the insects producing them carefully studied. If our entomological brethren have encountered any difficulty in the investigation of these galls, it has arisen not from the absence of "indications of insect agency" in their production, but rather from the difficulty of discerning the true gall-maker when found in the midst of so many gall-guests.

M. S. B.

*Weeds.* Professor Halsted, late of the Agricultural College, Ames, Iowa, who has recently come to New Brunswick, N. J., is evidently in the midst of weeds, for he writes us concerning the flora of the vicinity of New York and especially the ballast plants, and hints that he would like a note in the BULLETIN, stating that he desires a report of the twenty worst weeds in any locality. The injuriousness and range of our native and introduced weeds can be determined only by the combined reports of many careful observers, and we trust our readers in all parts of the country will aid in this important work. It is suggested that the easiest method of making such a report is by checking off the

species in a local County or State printed list, giving as many common names for each species as are in use in the locality. Particular attention should be given to any recent weeds, and any successful means of eradication should be stated.—[Ed.]

*Oxybaphus nyctagineus* has established itself along one of the railroads leading into Providence, R. I., as I am informed by Mr. Arnold Green. W. W. BAILEY.

*Variegated Kalmia*. I think variations are interesting and should be put upon record. I therefore send you a specimen of *Kalmia angustifolia*, with variegated leaf. This variety occurs in two places in the town of Dartmouth, Mass., and in quite sizable clumps; hence it is not an individual sprout.

E. LEWIS STURTEVANT.

[Our attention was called to the same occurrence in *K. latifolia* some years ago by Dr. J. B. Potter, at Bridgeton, N. J.—Ed.]

*A Trifid style in Mentha piperita*. I enclose flower of *Mentha piperita* with a polemoniaceous style. The bifid character is so strongly marked in the order that the indications of a possible tri-carpeillary structure may have an evolutionary value.

T. MEEHAN.

*Eclipta procumbens*. It must have been noted, but probably not recorded, as it deserves to be, that on plucking portions of *Eclipta procumbens*, the bruised tissue assumes an inky black hue.

T. MEEHAN.

*A new Foreigner*. Specimens of the great European pest, *Cuscuta Epithymum*, Murray, var. *vulgaris*, Engelm. (*C. trifolii*, Babington), have been sent me from Seidersville, Northampton Co., Pa., by Mr. Robert G. Bechdolt, who says it is making sad havoc in the clover fields of his neighborhood. Mr. B. has collected also, at the same station, *Leontodon hirsutus*, L., *L. autumnale*, L., *Picris hieracioides*, L. and *Lactuca Scariola*, L.

THOS. C. PORTER.

*Botanical Clubs* seem to have taken a start of late. It is a good and encouraging sign, and speaks more plainly than anything else of the spread of botanical interest in recent years. The May's Landing Botanical Club, under the Presidency of Rev. Dr. J. E. Peters, has recently been organized in New Jersey.